



Testimony of Dr. Leonard Lev
Medical Director, Root Center for Advanced Recovery

In support of

S.B. No. 895 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO VARIOUS PHARMACY STATUTES. *General Law Committee, February 25, 2021*

Senator Maroney, Representative Abercrombie, Senator Berthel, Representative Case and Members of the Human Services Committee, my name is Dr. Leonard Lev and I am the Medical Director for the Root Center for Advanced Recovery. **Thank you for the opportunity to offer my written testimony regarding S.B. No. 895 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO VARIOUS PHARMACY STATUTES.**

The Root Center is the largest provider of methadone maintenance treatment in Connecticut. We have been treating clients in the state of Connecticut with opioid addiction since 1970 and opened our first outpatient medical clinic in December 1884, becoming the first such outpatient clinic in the state. We currently have approximately 250 employees with 10 locations across the state that serve close to 6000 clients a day in Bristol, Hartford (2 sites), Manchester, Middletown, New Britain, New London, Norwich, Torrington and Willimantic.

On behalf of the Root Center for Advanced Recovery, I wanted to voice our concern with Section 6 which seeks to permit methadone, and other controlled substance medication assisted treatment, that is both dispensed for take home use and dispensed and administered at facilities, to be uploaded to the Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System.

We believe that this could be useful to do but would advise that the entry of data into the prescription drug monitoring program should be limited. We would advise limiting such information to the name of dispensary, start date, name of medication - methadone, and the end date when patient is discharged.

Since methadone is dispensed and not prescribed, and the dose changes frequently, sometimes every 3 days, to keep updating PMP for 6000 patients with dose changes will be impossible from a practical standpoint. Therefore, if this bill is to move forward, we recommend limiting any requirement to ensure this is not an undue burden.

Thank you for your consideration.

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